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BORIS T. PASH

BOX NO. 2

ACCESSION NO. 72033-8.19

(P)

2-10 Boris Pash

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A1505 Mission
Subject File
DSM Project

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April 5, 1943

MEMORANDUM FOR GENERAL STRONG:

Subject: DSM Project--Communist Espionage.

I. Plan of Operation

1. a. All employees of the entire DSM Project will be checked specially through the files of the Military Intelligence Division and of the Federal Bureau of Investigation for Communist connections. In addition, special checks will be made of the key personnel for such connections.

b. Check will be made of Communist leaders living near parts of the Project to determine if they have any interest in it.

c. The San Francisco office will be the office of origin with reference to the espionage case which developed as a result of the activity of Nelson et al, and will be responsible for coordinating all activities with the Federal Bureau of Investigation with respect to this case, until the case spreads beyond its confines of the Western Defense Command and the State of New Mexico.

d. There will be established in San Francisco an undercover office in which will be centralized the necessary facilities for technical surveillance and postal inspection. Ten qualified agents will be selected from the country at large. No agent will be selected who has been in San Francisco before as an agent.

e. Undercover agents or operatives will be established as rapidly as security permits within the Project at the Radiation Laboratory at all "information levels."

f. There will be established in San Francisco necessary mail covers, postal inspections, and technical surveillance. Physical surveillance will be employed wherever necessary.

g. Complete technical surveillance and postal inspection will be established at Santa Fe, New Mexico. All normal lines of communication with the Project are through Santa Fe. Undercover facilities will be established there as needed. Expenditures will be submitted directly to Colonel Richards with no notation whatsoever on the vouchers for the DSM Project. There will be submitted to this office a receipt of each expenditure.

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2. At least one of the undercover personnel at the Radiation Laboratory will be an actual agent and steps will be taken to secure for him contacts with the Communist Party. Agents will be secured through the Counter Intelligence Corps and selection will be made by qualification largely from other Service Commands. As much technical equipment as is available will be supplied. However, under present conditions it is believed that a large part of it will have to be purchased as will equipment for postal inspection and rapid photographing of documents.

3. The construction of the Santa Fe installation is just now being completed. Some of the employees are at present living on the post and others just off it. Steps will be taken to establish complete technical and postal inspection coverage. It will be several weeks, however, before this coverage will be complete. This officer and Colonel Pash will visit Dallas to coordinate this plan with Colonel Roffe and go on to Santa Fe early this week.

4. It is contemplated that this investigation may last four or five months or longer and no attempt will be made to obtain complete coverage all at once or to put into effect all of the above points at once. This is an operation of some delicacy requiring careful planning.

5. We will proceed with ordinary protective measures in all other parts of the Project. If and when evidence of the spread of this case to another part of the Project is received, or if a similar situation arises, such part of the above plan as may be necessary will be put into operation with respect to that part of the Project.

II. Funds

1. It is believed that a confidential fund of approximately \$15,000 will be necessary for the San Francisco office to the end of the fiscal year. This will be broken down as follows:

a. Rent - Office in San Francisco	\$400.00/mo.	\$1200.00
b. Salaries	250.00/mo.	750.00
c. General Expenses	2000.00/mo.	6000.00
d. Purchase of Technical Equip.		6000.00
e. Office Equipment		1000.00
		<u>\$14950.00</u>

2. It is believed that these funds should be expended on vouchers submitted directly to Colonel Richards with no notation whatsoever on the voucher except "DSM Project." There will be submitted to this officer a detailed account of each expenditure

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It is necessary therefore, to develop some means consistent in a sealed envelope which can be preserved and opened if questions concerning expenditures arise.

III. Coordination with the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

Director or his Deputy, some person designated by him as the

1. This Project is of first importance to the War Department and the security of information concerning it is the primary thing to be considered. Therefore, G-2 must control this investigation as far as it affects this Project and the establishment of a case of espionage must be subordinated in every respect to the interest of the War Department in the security of information concerning this Project.

to them which affects this Project. General Groves will make

2. Insofar as the investigation of the espionage activities of Steve Nelson or any of the Communists on the West Coast affects or may affect this Project, it should be within the control of the A. C. of S., G-2 whose representative for this purpose is Colonel Pash. Actual investigational activities concerning persons employed on the Project should be carried on under the control of this Division, with this Division covering the key personnel and the FBI covering such of the remainder as may be requested by this Division. Actual investigational activities of persons not connected with the Project should be carried on by the FBI. Full exchange of information concerning this case must be made continuously.

3. It is known that the Germans are interested in this Project and of course the Steve Nelson case indicates the interest of the Communist Party and the fact that they may be securing information from other parts of the Project. Furthermore, the USSR in February of this year, endeavored to secure a quantity of uranium metal, uranium nitrate and uranium chloride. The Soviet Purchasing Commission requested several commercial firms to secure this material for them and also made a request through Lend Lease which resulted in attempts by the Chemical Warfare Service to purchase quantities of uranium compounds. The Soviet Purchasing Commission officially requested 25 lbs. of uranium metal, 220 lbs. of uranium nitrate and 220 lbs. of uranium chloride. It was stated that they needed it for experimental purposes in connection with the hardening of gun barrels and medical developments. Arrangements were made to make it impossible for the Soviet Government to obtain any except extremely small quantities of the compounds. Particular locality the identity of our representative who should be contacted concerning it will be disclosed to it and all information pertaining to this investigation should be addressed to this representative personally.

4. It should be pointed out that information concerning this particular espionage case involving Steve Nelson was developed through the close surveillance of Nelson. The officials of the Communist Party occupying positions, the same or similar to that occupied by Steve Nelson, in other parts of the country are known.

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It is necessary therefore, to develop some means consistent with proper security of ferreting out these interests. It is recommended, therefore, that the general nature of this Project and the location of each part of it and of each contractor be disclosed to the following persons in the Bureau: The Director or his Deputy, some person designated by him as the contact with the War Department, the Head of the Communist Desk in the FBI (Lish Whitson) and the Head of the German Espionage Desk, under the condition that information given to them is not to be transmitted to any other person within the Bureau without your prior consent. A list of persons to whom disclosure is made will be furnished General Groves. It is believed that this will enable the Bureau to furnish to us all information coming to them which affects this Project. General Groves will make the disclosure personally to the above persons as a group.

4. It is further recommended that the Bureau be requested not to carry out any investigation of matters affecting this Project except at our request. Where such investigations are necessary, it is recommended that the Bureau be requested to give them special handling so that only the Special Agent in charge and one other Agent selected by him in the Field Division conducting the investigation should know about it, and that when it is necessary for that office to set out leads they be set out by letter giving only information essential to the investigation and not by distribution of the entire report.

5. It is further recommended that the Bureau be requested to transmit reports concerning this Project only to the persons above described who are to have knowledge of it and by such persons only to yourself or this officer. The papers will be handled only by those persons specifically detailed to do so.

6. It is not believed desirable to disseminate knowledge of this Project to the Special Agent in charge of each office of the FBI. Our representatives who have knowledge of this Project in each Service Command have already requested information from the local Field Division of the FBI concerning certain installations and companies within their territory. These are parts of the Project, but they have not been so identified to the Bureau local offices. It is not believed necessary to do so.

7. When the Bureau is requested to make an investigation within a particular locality the identity of our representative who should be contacted concerning it will be disclosed to it and all information pertaining to this investigation should be addressed to this representative personally.

8. It should be pointed out that information concerning this particular espionage case involving Steve Nelson was developed through close surveillance of Nelson. The officials of the Communist Party occupying positions, the same or similar to that occupied by Steve Nelson, in other parts of the country are known.

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It is recommended that the FBI be asked to conduct a surveillance of these persons similar to that conducted on Steve Nelson in those parts of the country where important portions of this Project are located.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. That the Plan of Operation be approved.
2. That necessary investigational activities concerning the DSM Project be given first priority for Counter Intelligence.
3. That the sum of \$15,000 for the balance of this fiscal year be allocated for the use of the Western Defense Command in connection with the DSM Project.
4. That limited disclosure concerning the DSM Project be made to key FBI personnel.
5. That the following recommendations be made to FBI:
6. That MID will control investigational activities which may affect the DSM Project.
7. That such investigational activities as are carried on by the Bureau be given special handling as set out in Paragraph III 4. and III 5.
8. That the Bureau carry on proper investigations concerning the DSM Project on request of MID.
9. That there be detailed to this officer a competent CIC officer who may devote full time to the study of such cases as it is necessary.

JOHN LANSDALE, Jr.,
Major, Field Artillery,
Chief, Review Branch, CIG, MIS.

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WAR DEPARTMENT
War Department General Staff
Headquarters Western Defense Command
and Fourth Army
OFFICE OF THE COMMANDING GENERAL
Presidio of San Francisco

April 15, 1943.

350.05 (G-2)

10 April 1943

Subject: DSM Project.

To: Commanding General, Western Defense Command and Fourth
SUBJECT: DSM Project Presidio, California.

TO : Assistant Chief of Staff, G-2,
War Department,
Washington, D. C.

Secret letter April 10, 1943 (350.05 (G-2)).
the A. C. of S., G-2, War Department, is charged by the Secretary
of War with all matters of security pertaining to the above project.
The Secretary of War has further directed that in each Army or Ser-

1. It is the understanding of the undersigned that the DSM Project
is under the control of G-2, War Department, under whose direction certain
officers are charged with its execution. It is the further understanding
of the undersigned that the responsibility for its accomplishment is solely
that of the officers designated.

2. The services of Lt. Colonel Boris T. Pash, AUS, Asst. to the A. C.
of S., G-2, (C.I.B.) W.D.C. and 4th Army, have been made available to you
in connection with the execution of the DSM Project. It will be satisfactory
to this headquarters that he devote so much of his time for such period as
may be necessary and desired by you. This assignment will include cooperation with
one or more civilian agencies of the government who have been assigned
certain specific functions by the Commander-in-Chief.

3. While it is impossible to forecast the developments in the
execution of this project, it is believed that only a portion of Col.
Pash's time will be required, but he will be J. L. DeWITTO your control
at the earliest practicable date.

Lieutenant General, U.S.A.
Commanding

(Sgd) GEO. V. SIGMOND,
Major General,
A. C. of S., G-2.

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By authority A. C. of S., G-2

Date..4/15/43.....(LHE...)

WAR DEPARTMENT
War Department General Staff
Military Intelligence Division G-2
Washington

April 15, 1943.

Subject: DSM Project.

To: Commanding General, Western Defense Command and Fourth
Army, San Francisco, California.

1. Reference your secret letter April 10, 1943 (350.05 (G-2)), the A. C. of S., G-2, War Department, is charged by the Secretary of War with all matters of security pertaining to the above project. The Secretary of War has further directed that in each Army or Service Command concerned, one officer be designated to be responsible for and to carry out directions issued him by G-2, War Department, for the furtherance of the specific portions of the project to be executed in the areas assigned by higher authority. Responsibility in the premises is limited solely to the officers designated.

2. Lt. Col. Boris T. Pash, Assistant G-2, Western Defense Command and Fourth Army, has been designated to carry out within the jurisdiction of the Western Defense Command the instructions of the Secretary of War in connection with the above named project. Col. Pash's duties in this connection will include cooperation with one or more civilian agencies of the government who have been assigned certain specific functions by the Commander-in-Chief.

3. While it is impossible to forecast the developments in the execution of this project, it is believed that only a portion of Col. Pash's time will be required, but he will be released to your control at the earliest practicable date.

(Sgd) GEO. V. STRONG,
Major General,
A. C. of S., G-2.

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OFFICE CHIEF COPY

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WDGB 1
Col. Nicholas
72536

MAY 11 1944

General Dwight D. Eisenhower,
Commanding General, U. S. Army Forces,
European Theater of Operations,
London, England.

Dear General Eisenhower:

1st. Colonel Boris T. Fash, who will deliver this letter, has been designated Chief of the Scientific Intelligence Mission organized by G-2 of the War Department to procure intelligence of the enemies' scientific developments. The Director of the Office of Scientific Research and Development is assisting G-2 in the conduct of this mission, and I consider it to be of the highest importance to the war effort.

Colonel Fash was Chief of the Alps Mission, which operated for similar purposes in Italy. The results obtained from that mission indicate that its activities should be extended to other regions. It is believed that considerable important information will be procured in the European Theater of Operations, particularly after the occupation of territories now under Axis control.

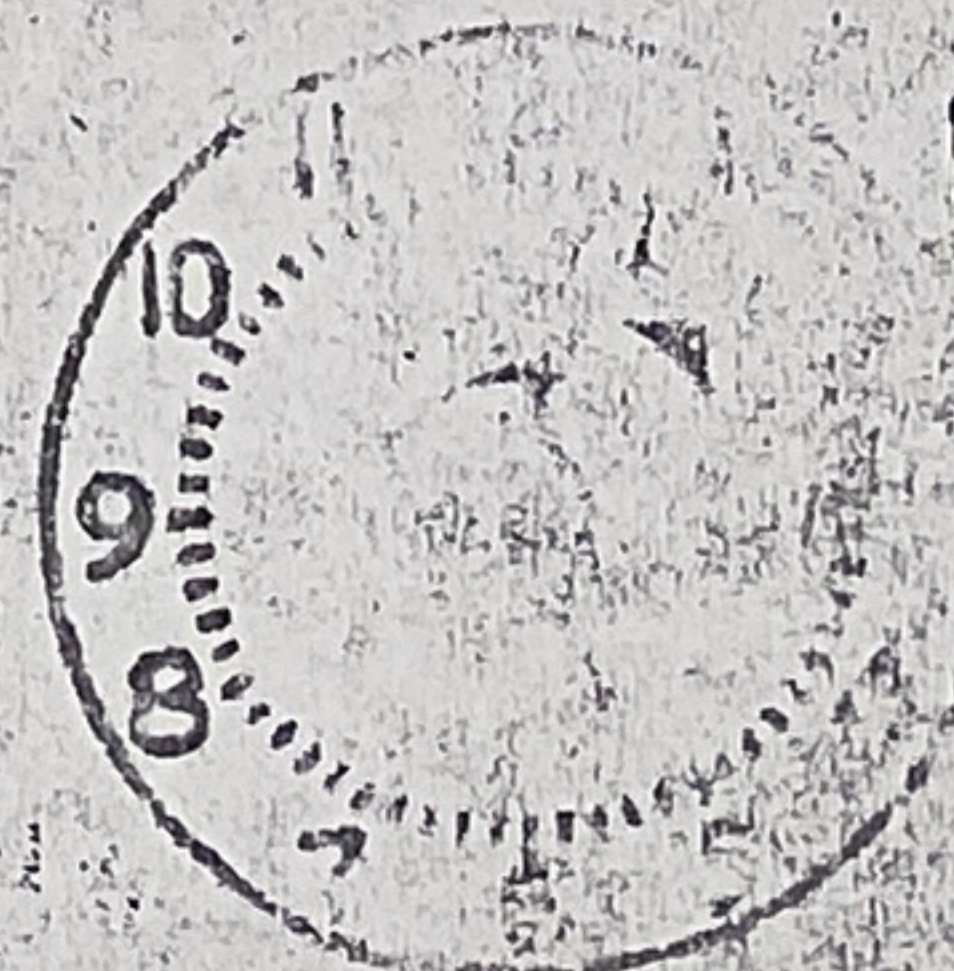
The scientific group of the mission will be headed by a scientist to be selected by the Office of Scientific Research and Development, and it will include the necessary additional scientists competent to seek and evaluate the information. However, your assistance is essential, and I hope that you will give Colonel Fash every facility and assistance at your disposal which will be necessary and helpful in the successful operation of this mission.

The organization and objectives of the mission are more fully explained in a memorandum to the Chief of Staff, ET USA, from Major General Clayton Bissell, Assistant Chief of Staff, G-2, WDGS, dated 3 May 1944.

Sincerely yours,

HENRY L. STIMSON

Secretary of War.



DECLASSIFIED

DOD Dir. 5200.9 Sept. 27, 1958
NMW by W date 10/3/67

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Copy for S/W

COORDINATION
AND RECORD DIV.
OFF. S. WAR

ORIGINAL DISPATCHED FROM
OFFICE CHIEF OF STAFF
given to Col. Fash

MAY 11 1944

0500 201 Park, Spina 8, Lt. Capt. (B-14) [unclear]

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WAR DEPARTMENT

WASHINGTON

February 1, 1943.

Lt. General John L. De Witt, Commanding General,
Western Defense Command,
Presidio of San Francisco, California.

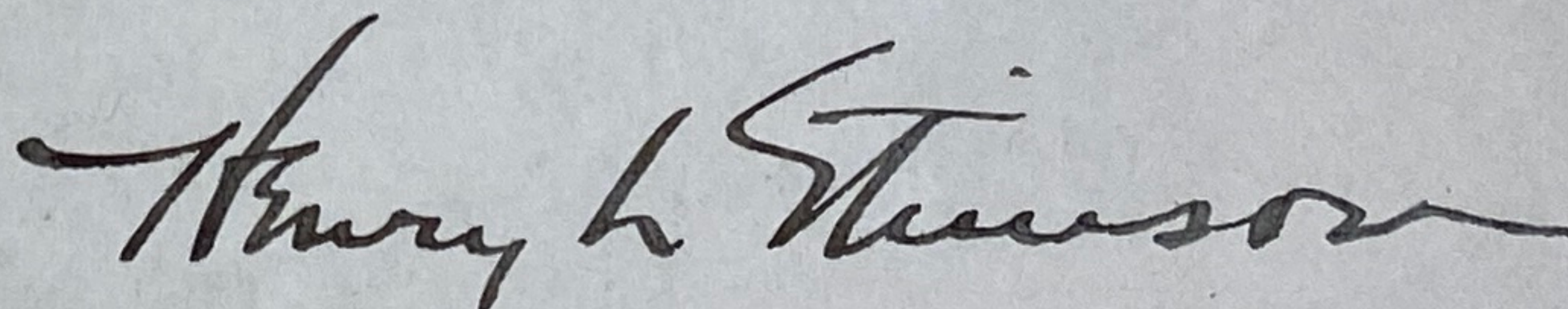
My dear General De Witt:

The War Department has been charged with the responsibility for a development of extremely great importance to the prosecution of the war. A special officer in the Office of the Chief of Engineers has been placed in general charge of this project. Certain activities in this connection have already been undertaken at locations within your Defense Command, and additional activities will be undertaken in the near future.

It is believed to be desirable to establish prohibited zones at the locations of the various parts of this project in order to facilitate measures taken for its security. The power to regulate the right to enter, remain in, and depart from these prohibited zones should be delegated to the District Engineer, Manhattan District, Office of the Chief of Engineers, who is the operating agency for the various phases of this project.

A representative of the Assistant Chief of Staff, G-2, War Department General Staff will confer with you relative to the locations of these prohibited zones and the terms of the order establishing them.

Sincerely yours,



Secretary of War.

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WAR DEPARTMENT
WAR DEPARTMENT GENERAL STAFF
MILITARY INTELLIGENCE DIVISION G-2
WASHINGTON

MAR 16 1943

SUBJECT: Expenditure of Funds on DSM Project.

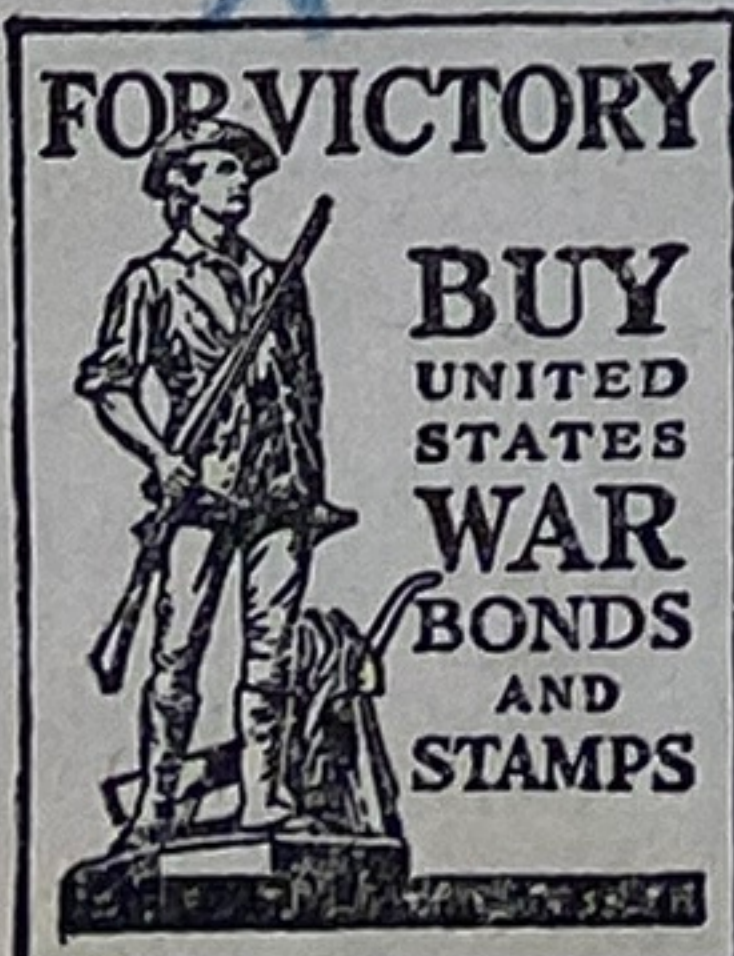
TO : A. C. of S., G-2,
Western Defense Command,
Presidio of San Francisco, Calif.

Reference is made to letter of the Military Intelligence Division dated January 19, 1943, Subject: Security on DSM Project, pursuant to which you have designated Lt. Colonel Boris Pash to act for your office. It may be necessary for Colonel Pash to disburse confidential funds in carrying on necessary activities in connection with this project. In order to avoid compromising the project by reference on vouchers, it will be sufficient to note on vouchers used in connection with this project simply "For DSM Project."

Registry No. 1015443.....

MAR 20 1943 4 22 PM

G. V. Strong
GEO. V. STRONG,
Major General,
A. C. of S., G-2.



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WAR DEPARTMENT
WAR DEPARTMENT GENERAL STAFF
MILITARY INTELLIGENCE DIVISION G-2
WASHINGTON

Subject: Security on DSM Project.

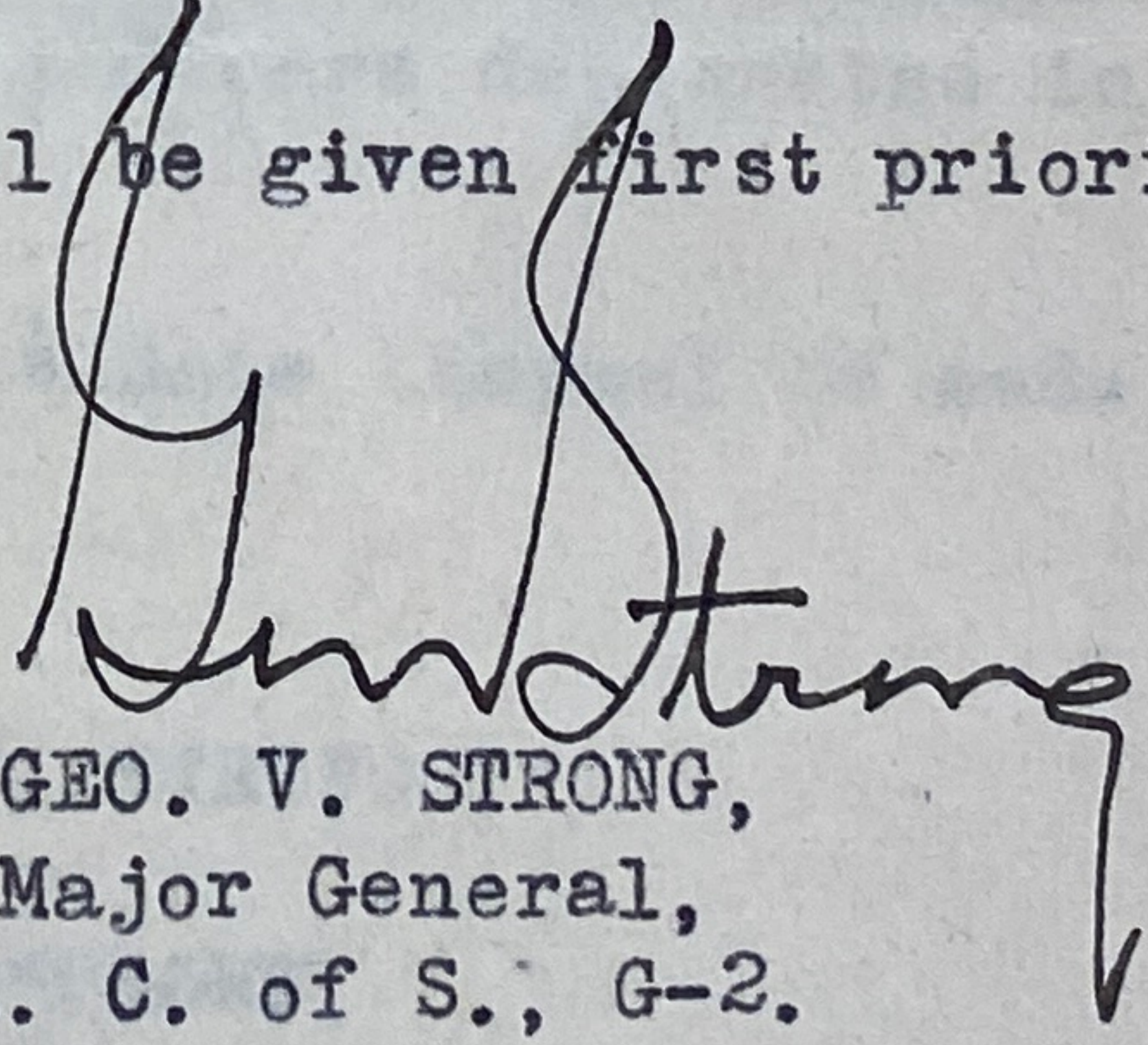
To: A. C. of S., G-2,
Western Defense Command & Fourth Army,
Presidio of San Francisco, Calif.

1. Major John Lansdale, Jr. of this Division has been designated to act as a representative of this Division on intelligence matters connected with a War Department Project of great secrecy and importance. This project is known as the DSM Project. It is essential that knowledge of the progress and nature of this project be confined to as few persons as possible. Certain elements of this project are in your Service Command and it is contemplated that it will be necessary to utilize the facilities of your office in connection with investigations and security matters concerning this project.

2. It is desired that you designate an officer to act as representative of your office for matters connected with the project. Sufficient information concerning the project to enable this officer to act intelligently will be imparted to him by Major Lansdale. This information will be transmitted to no other person without the prior consent of this Division.

3. The officer designated as your representative will be authorized to keep a separate secret file under his personal control and to utilize the facilities of your office in connection with this project on his own initiative. He will correspond directly with Major Lansdale in Room 2E661 Pentagon Building, Washington, D. C.

4. Matters concerning this project will be given first priority.


GEO. V. STRONG,
Major General,
A. C. of S., G-2.

cc: Col. Church
11-24-43

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WAR DEPARTMENT

WAR DEPARTMENT GENERAL STAFF
Military Intelligence Division G-2
WASHINGTON

May 25, 1943

Subject: Personnel on DSM Project.

To : The Commanding General,
Western Defense Command,
San Francisco, California.

1. Certain activities in connection with the above mentioned project are being carried on in your Service Command.

2. Colonel John Weckerling and Lieut. Colonel Boris T. Pash of your Command have been specifically charged by the Secretary of War with the carrying out of highly secret instructions in connection with the above.

3. The Secretary of War has issued instructions that in view of the ultra-secret character of the matter in question, and its vital importance to the prosecution of the war, detailed knowledge in regard thereto be limited to the smallest possible number of individuals.

4. The Secretary of War Directs:

a. That instructions issued from time to time through this office, communications incident thereto, and personnel, transportation and facilities required in your Defense Command in connection therewith, be given first priority in all cases.

b. That these instructions be communicated by you in person to the officers designated in paragraph two above.

c. That all instructions and communications issued through this office be communicated directly to the officers designated in paragraph two above.

d. That report of action taken and the date thereof be made direct to this office by indorsement hereon.

/S/ GEO. V. STRONG

GEO. V. STRONG,
Major General,
A. C. of S., G-2

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BASIC: Ltr. from A. C. of S., G-2, War Department, Washington, D.C., 25 May 1943, Subjet: Personnel on DSM Project.

350.05 (A-2)

1st Ind.

HQS. WESTERN DEFENSE COMMAND AND FOURTH ARMY, Presidio of San Francisco, California, 2 June 1943.

TO: A. C. of S., G-2, War Department, Washington, D. C.

The instructions contained in par. 4 of basic communication have been given directly to Colonel John Weckerling, G.S.C., A. C. of S., G-2, and Lt. Colonel Boris T. Pash, M.I., Chief, Counter Intelligence Branch, G-2, both of this headquarters, on this date.

J. L. DeWITT

Lieutenant General, U.S.A.

Commanding

Copies to:

Colonel John Weckerling, G.S.C.

Lt. Colonel Boris T. Pash, M.I.

Clayton Russell
CLAYTON RUSSELL

Major General, CSC

Assistant Chief of Staff, G-2

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WAR DEPARTMENT
WAR DEPARTMENT GENERAL STAFF
MILITARY INTELLIGENCE DIVISION, G-2
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

22 MAR 1945

MEMORANDUM FOR MAJOR GENERAL L. R. GROVES:

SUBJECT: ALSOS Mission

1. This will acknowledge receipt of your Memorandum of 16 March 1945 relative to the successful operation of the ALSOS Mission in Strasbourg.

2. It is a source of gratification to this Division to learn that the operations of the ALSOS Mission have been of material value to you in compiling information concerning German progress in your field of activity. The recent expansion of the Mission will appreciably increase the effectiveness of the Mission's operations in Germany and should facilitate the exploitation of many of your primary objectives.

3. I have sent Colonel Conrad, A. C. of S., G-2, ETOUSA, a letter of appreciation for his cooperation with the ALSOS Mission, and have commended Mission personnel for the initiative and timely action displayed by them in the Strasbourg operation.

Clayton Bissell
CLAYTON BISSELL
Major General, GSC
Assistant Chief of Staff, G-2

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E.O. 11652, Sec. 3(E) and 5(D) or (E)
Authority NND 750112
By CD/SR NARS, Date 2-5-FEB 1976

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Born's Push

ALSOS Mission